



The Christophers

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February 28, 2018

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman
Commissioner Nanci Langley
Commissioner Mark Acton
Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

We join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission.

The mission of The Christophers is to encourage people of all ages, and from all walks of life, to use their God-given talents to make a positive difference in the world. The mission is best expressed in The Christophers' motto: "It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness." It is through our literature, broadcasts, awards, youth contests, prison ministry donations, and leadership courses that we work toward our mission, bringing positive and constructive values into the mainstream of life. All are welcome to join us, knowing that in embracing the Christopher mission they will share one overriding commitment: the love of all people for the love of God.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years will have the following impact on our mission and the people we serve...

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Mary Ellen Robinson
Vice President/COO

"It's better to light one candle than to curse the darkness"